

Area 8 Workforce Board
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2026 @ 2:30pm
JTDMH Board Room

Chairman Radway called the meeting to order at 2:32pm.

In attendance: Chairman Radway, Fred Rush, Lesia Arnett, Dave Krendl, Jodi Knouff, Fiscal Officer Kremer and Director Freymuth

Lesia Arnett moved to approve the May 21, 2026 meeting minutes as submitted, Fred Rush 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Director Freymuth reported the following:

ODJFS Asst. Director Brad Barger has not responded to any of the emails sent to him requests a reschedule of the July 2026 meeting he postponed. Chairman Radway offered to contact elected officials to see if they could assist in setting up a meeting with the Board.

Review of letter sent to Mercer County JFS Director Angela Nickell regarding the release of Public Records and Area 8's policy. Fiscal Officer Kremer mentioned she could not find this policy listed on Area 8's new website. Director Freymuth to follow up with Brand It!.

Review of email sent to Chairman Radway from Auglaize and Hardin Counties JFS Director Julie Gossard. Chairman Radway reported that Julie did call him and apologized for her misunderstanding that the Director's contract was actively being negotiated. Director Freymuth instructed to follow up with Auglaize County Commissioners.

Mercer County intention to submit a request to ODJFS to leave Area 8 and become a stand alone Area. Executive Committee to meet with Mercer County BOCC on August 27th, time to be determined.

JobsOhio Grant application with Area 7 was not approved.

Next full Board meeting is scheduled for September 17th, however the OWA Conference is the same day. Meeting changed to September 24th. Director Freymuth to follow up with Auglaize County BOCC to ensure the Assembly Room is available.

Review of a new Work Flex policy in Ohio.

Incumbent Worker Contract submitted by Auglaize County. Director Freymuth was asked if they have the funds to cover this request; Fiscal Officer Kremer and Director Freymuth met with Auglaize County OMJ staff and it was explained they must live within their budget. Lesia Arnett

moved to approve, Fred Rush 2nd. Contract approved unanimously for signature and return to Auglaize County.

Fiscal Officer Kremer reported the following:

Reviewed copies of financial reports she provided.

Discussed liquidation end date of the 2 Special Projects (September 30, 2026)

Lesia Arnett moved to adjourn, Jodi Knouff 2nd. Chairman Radway concluded meeting at 3:51pm.